

## 9. Get Wired – Using the Internet




Don't forget the Internet when you are planning your summer reading program! It can help you both with planning the program and with your relationship to your teens. Not only is the Internet an important addition to your collection, it is also a wonderful promotional tool for the summer reading program and the library in general.

When using the Internet to help plan a program, there are a couple of excellent sites geared towards librarians that might be helpful, like the Young Adult Library Services Association website at [www.ala.org/yalsa](http://www.ala.org/yalsa), or the Young Adult Librarian's Help HomePage at [yahelp.suffolk.lib.ny.us](http://yahelp.suffolk.lib.ny.us).






There are also lots of teen generated sites that can give you ideas about how to market to teens. These sites can alert you to their interests and how to make promotional materials appealing to teens.

Always keep in mind that teens love and use the Internet! The Internet gives you a wonderful opportunity to interact with your teens. So here are a few ideas based on time and/or Internet skills that will help you get started using the Internet with teens. Remember that teens can be a wonderful resource for teaching you or others Internet skills.







### Basic

-  Know sites that are popular with teens – music sites, author sites, sport and movies sites.
-  Be familiar with teen online magazines.
-  Make up a handout or bookmark of useful and fun sites.

### Intermediate

-  Set up a teen web page. Ask your teens for input.
-  Use your site to promote the summer reading program.
-  Add booklists and book reviews to the sites.
-  Have Internet programs specifically for teens, like "How to Make Your Own Web Page" or "The Best Search Engines and Secret Search Tips."
-  Point your page to a new site every day/week.

## Advanced

-  Make your site interactive. Have teens submit online book reviews or poetry.
-  Set up an online book discussion.
-  Arrange an online chat with an author.
-  Notify teens of upcoming programs or activities through the web.
-  Have teens maintain the teen section of your library web page.
-  Check these web pages for ideas for cool teen sites and activities:

Boulder Public Library Young Adult Advisory Board

***<http://bcn.boulder.co.us/library/bpl/yaab/index.html>***

Internet Public Library Teen Division

***<http://www.ipl.org/teen/>***

King County Library System Teen Zone

***<http://www.kcls.org/newya/ya.html>***

Springfield-Greene County Library Teen Thing

***<http://thelibrary.springfield.missouri.org/teens/teens.htm>***

